THE CLEVELAND
MUSEUM OF ART
11150 EAST
BOULEVARD
CLEVELAND, OHIO
44106-1797

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September 17, 1992

DANZA AZTECA DE ANAHUAC, A FREE PUBLIC PERFORMANCE OF PRE-COLUMBIAN MUSIC AND DANCE--WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 7:30 PM

On Wednesday, September 30, at 7:30 pm, The Cleveland Museum of Art's Gartner Auditorium will echo to the sounds of ancient ritual drums, rattles, and flutes, when Danza Azteca de Anahuac recreates the rich and colorful songs and dances of the Aztec peoples of pre-Columbian Mexico. The performance is free and open to the public.

The five members of Danza Azteca de Anahuac, based in New Mexico, are celebrated for their interpretations of the music and dance of the Aztecs, inheritors of the cultural traditions of earlier Olmec, Toltec, and Mayan peoples. Using such instruments as ceremonial drums, seashell trumpets, turtle shells, gourd and metal rattles, and clay and reed flutes, the spectacularly costumed members of the group perform traditional dances honoring the Aztec gods and ancestors and paying homage to the sun and earth, night, fire, agriculture, birth, and death. As they enter and exit, the dancers venerate the creator god Quetzalcoatl, the feathered serpent, with serpentine movements and the blowing of shell trumpets. As they perform, they will discuss the meaning and origins of their music, movements, and costumes.

The performers have worked together for the past ten years. Guillermo Chavez Rosete, who was born and raised in Mexico, moved to California in 1970, when he began studying Danza Azteca. He has traveled across the United States researching and learning native American customs and ceremonies while sharing his knowledge of Aztec dance. Dorotea Martinez Miera of Taos, New Mexico, is a traditional weaver and professional dancer trained in ballet, Middle Eastern, modern, and jazz dance, as well as Aztec dance.

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Pat Garza, who also lives in Taos, is a professional jeweler and dancer trained in modern, jazz, Middle Eastern and African dance. Larry Sargent, a composer and percussionist from Taos, New Mexico, has given concerts throughout the United States and Mexico. Noberto Zamudio, born in Mexico, is a painter, photographer, and student of Meso-American culture.

Danza Azteca de Anahuac's appearance at The Cleveland Museum of Art is made possible by the Thomas Munro Memorial Fund.

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For additional information, please contact Ann Edwards, Public Information Office, The Cleveland Museum of Art, 11150 East Boulevard, Cleveland OH 44106; 216/421-7340.